Joſhua Cobham's

TESTIMONY

Concerning

Life and Death,

Publiſhed for Friends, as he deſired before his Deceaſe.

With a Word of Tender Advice from him to all Young Friends, and all thoſe that profeſs the Truth.

They who are faithful unto Death, ſhall recieve a Crown of Life.

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REVOLUTION HOUSE
Friends' Reference
CHEESGATE WITHOUT

Joshua Cobham's Testimony Concerning *Life* and *Death*.

FRiends, and Friendly People, It being much on me to lay before you, the danger of venturing your Everlasting well being; to answer your own desires.

Friends, Consider, the Call of the Lord is to all; the Lord hath given of his Good Spirit to Every one to profit withal; Titus 2. 11. for, *The Grace of God that bringeth Salvation, hath Appeared to all Men*; but all do not obey: *I gave them my good Spirit*, saith the Lord, *But they Rebelled against it*; this is a dangerous state: Consider, all must dye and come to Judgment, and you must answer the deeds done in this life; for in the Scriptures

of Truth it is ſaid thou ſhalt anſwer for Every Idle Word; Now, Friends, ſeeing God hath raiſed a People to bare a Teſtimony for himſelf; conſider; have you all anſwered the Call of the Lord; for I tell you, that the Lord had a love for you, or elſe he had not made choiſe of you to bare a Teſtimony for him.

Friends, both Young and Old, have a care of ſlighting the Love of God, and have a care leaſt another take your Crown; but, *If thou art faithful unto death, thou ſhalt have a Crown of Life*; Revelations, 2. 10. Now who would venture this Crown of Life, to anſwer a little pride, or any other ſin that thou art inclining to?

For, as the Apoſtle *Paul* ſaith, *the Wages of Sin is Death.*

Now conſider; art thou walking in Gods Way or not? If any would ask which is Gods Way, that we may know it from the Devils way, I will tell you how you may know; your read the Scriptures, and they tell you,

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and our Lord and Saviour tells you, and the Spirit of God in you tells you, *Mat.* 13. 14. Our Saviours one Words, *Enter ye in at the ſtrait Gate, for wide is the Gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to deſtruction, and many there be which go in there at*; and the reaſon Chriſt Jeſus gives, is this; becauſe, *Strait is the Gate, and narrow is the Way which leadeth unto Life, and few, there be that find it.* Now Friends; beſides this Teſtimony of Chriſt, you have a witneſs in your ſelves that reproves you when you Sin againſt God, although no Eye ſees you; *John* 14. 6. Jeſus ſaith, *I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me*; John 15. 14. *Ye are my Friends, if ye do whatſoever I Command you*; A new Commandment ſaith Chriſt I leave with you, *That, you Love one another*; He alſo Commands us to love our Enemies; and to do to all men as we would they ſhould do to us: Chriſt firſt loved us, before we loved him; and now, have not a Remnant great

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cauſe to love him? For we were once in the blind, dark, broad way that lead to Hell; but bleſſed be the Name of the Lord, he hath removed our feet out of the Mire and Clay, and ſet us on a ſure Rock, Chriſt Jeſus, and now we dare not wander after the Beaſt and falſe Prophets any more.

And now, Dear Friends; all both Young and Old, I deſire you to have a care of the World's Spirit; for you may ſee how thoſe of the World (poor Cretures) are led by the Prince of the Power of the Air, and how he worketh in the Children of Diſobedience, in leading them into all pride and wantonneſs, and drunkenneſs; and to get Worldly honour, which is not worth one Straw; but it all produceth trouble of Conſcience; for there is no peace to the wicked ſaith the Lord: Now I deſire you all that profeſs God's pretious Truth, that you keep clear in your Teſtimonies againſt all the Worldly Wickedneſs, and againſt all their vain Faſhions and Cuſtoms: For

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if thou pertake of there Sins, thou wilt pertake of their Plagues; for Hell is prepared for the Wicked and all that forget God, for all that live in Pride and Wickedneſs, except they repent, and forſake their Sins before they dye, they will be caſt into Hell.

Therefore I deſire all, both Young and Old, to conſider what they are a doing, while they have yet a being; For there is no Repentance in the Grave, where we are going; *Nor* is there any place of Purgatory, nor Cleanſing after we are dead; *For*, as Chriſt Jeſus ſaith, *If ye believe not that I am he, ye ſhall dye in your Sins and whither I go you cannot come:* A Lamentable ſtate, not to come where Chriſt is! For, let there profeſſion be what it will, ſo long as they live in this wicked courſe of Life, as in Pride, debauchery and ſuch like, they do deny Chriſt their Saviour and follow after the Devil; for as Jeſus ſaid to the *Phariſes, You are of your Father the Devil, and his works ye will do.*

Let all that live in wickedneſs conſider, what a great difference there is between Heaven and Hell; Hell is a place of Miſery and Torment; *Iſaiah* 30. 33. Tophet is ordained of old (yea for all the wicked, from the King, to the Beger) he hath made it deep and large, the pile thereof is Fire,& much Wood, the breath of the Lord, like a ſtream of Brimſtone doth kindle it: *pſalmes* 6. 8. depart from me all ye Workers of Iniquity; for the Lord hath heard the Voice of my weeping; and Chriſt will ſay unto the wicked, *depart from me ye Curſed, into Everlaſting Fire, prepared for the Devil and his Angels*, Mat. 25. 41. And the Devil that hath deceived them, and the Beaſt and falſe Prophet alſo, they ſhall be Tormented in the lake of Fire and Brimſtone both day and night for *Ever and Ever*, Reve. 20. 10. A Lamentable Sentance; But on the contrary, the Righteous ſhall be had into Everlaſting Joy, Mat. 25. 34. *Come ye bleſſed of my Father, Inherit*

rit the Kingdom prepared for you from the Foundation of the World; this bleſſed Kingdom was prepared for the Righteous in all Ages, it is a Kingdom, as the Apoſtle ſaith, 1. *Cor.* 2. 9. Eye hath not ſeen, nor Ear heard, neither hath it entered into the Heart of Man the things which God hath prepared for them that love him; the Joy of the Righteous ſhall there, be full, and none ſhall be able to take it from them, or diminiſh it; there is fulneſs of Joy and pleaſures for ever more; for when Chriſt which is our Head and Life ſhall appear, then ſhall we appear with him in Glory; The Prophet *David* tells us who they be that ſhall enjoy this Bleſſed Kingdom, *Pſalmes* 26. Alſo in *Pſalmes* 15. Oh! Here will be Honour beyond what Tongue can declare, Everlaſting Joyes: While we are here, what troubles, what exercies we meet with? But when we are in Heaven, there is Joy for ever and for ever more; as the

wicked ſhall depart into Everlaſting Fire, ſo ſhall the Righteous in Joy this Glorious Kingdom for ever and ever more, wherein is laſting Peace and Joy, and all Tears ſhall be wiped from there Eyes; there ſhall be no Sorrow, pain nor complaint; there is no malice to riſe up againſt us, no miſery to Afflict us, there is reſt from our Labour, Peace from our Enemies, freedom from all our Pains and Afflictions; this is a glorious ſtate and place indeed.

O Friends, a word ariſeth in my Heart to you all that profeſs Gods pretious Truth, you know it is the true way to Heaven, although it is a narrow and a ſtrait way, yet it leads to this Heavenly Kingdom before mentioned; I alſo know there is a Croſs to be taken up to your own wills, for Chriſt ſaith, *He that Will be my Diſciple muſt take up his Croſs daily, and follow me*; Now, Friends, you have had a many Teſtimonies, and

and Line upon Line to perſwade you to have a care of following the World, either in practice, or in faſhion; I ſee the World's ſpirit creeping in amongſt too many, ſome creeping after them in pride in their dreſs and fashions; ſome creeping after them in ſending out Sword and Gun, ſome creeping after them in joyning to Parties, and ſuch like; but the Lord God is againſt it all: Therefore, Friends, I warn you all, in the fear and dread of the Lord, to ſtand clear in your Teſtimonies, for there is a day a coming that all fleſh ſhall Tremble, and happy will it be with all ſuch that have born a faithful Teſtimony for the Lord; but wo to them that have been falſe to God and his Truth.

Friends, the Lord God called us to be the Salt of the Nations where we dwell, but if the Salt hath loſt it's ſavour, it is good for nothing: Ah, be not *luke warm* Profeſſors; for if you are and ſo continue, you will have your portion with the Hypocrites, where is

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weeping and gnaſhing of Teeth; but the faithful, and the honeſt hearted, will have a part in the glorious Kingdom with Chriſt Jeſus, and that for ever, and ever more

Written by your poor Brother, and Friend,

Joſhua Cobham.

The Name of the Righteous ſhall be in Everlaſting Remembrance; but the name of the Wicked ſhall Rott.

A Word of Advice to all Young Friends and thoſe that profeſs the Truth.

YOu Young Friends, which are Convinced of the Bleſſed Truth, And make Profeſſion of the ſame, I deſire you, in the Fear of the Lord to conſider what great Riches the Lord hath intruſted you with; the Lord hath ſet ye as Witnſſes on the Earth for himſelf, and now ſee that ye be faithful to the Lord, and be not falſe Witneſſes, but true Witneſſes, we that are Antient, and going off the Stage of this World, we muſt leave you to this great Treaſury; have a care that you

you prove faithful; for remember this Truth is hid from many, and delivered to you: we know it is the true way to Heaven, therefore keep in it, I beſeech you, keep in love and unity one with another, meddle not with them that are given to change: Falſe Brethren will ariſe, but keep you to God and his Truth, as he hath already made known to you; and keep in the good Way the Lord hath already caſt up for the Righteous to walk in; and meddle, nor joyn not with them that make Rents and Diviſions in the Church; have a care of Whiſpering and Backbiting; but keep in the true Travel Heavenward, and watch that the Enemy enter not into thy own Houſe; keep thy own Habitation clean, and then thou wilt be fit to go on with the Lord's work, and then ye will be of a good ſavour to your Neighbours, and ſervicable in the Church, as you alwayes watch over

over your own Wayes, and your own Thoughts to keep all well at home in your own Houſe, then will ye be fit to be Helpers off others; but if ye neglect your watch, and the Enemy get in, he will ſew Tears among the good Wheat, and then he will wound and hurt the pure Seed of God in you, and ſo you may become dark and clouded again; therefore remember what our Bleſſed Saviour Chriſt ſaith, *What I ſay to one, I ſay to all, watch.*

And now, that all may be preſerved, in the true fear of God, is the deſire of my Heart, and that the work of the Lord may proſper, and increaſe more, and more; and as you are faithful, the Lord will be with you in all your Meetings, and ye will feel the Springs of Life opened to you, and his Life flow from Veſſel, to Veſſel, to the great Refreſhing and Comfort of you; and this the Lord doth to encourage his to perſevere in that good work

work; and as ye keep in the well doing, and ſet a watch over your Thoughts, and over your Deeds, the Lord will be with you, and bleſs you in all ye take in hand, and you will find the increaſe of his Government, and him to bear rule in you; and then will ye be faithful Witneſſes for the Lord, and the Lord will delight to be in you, and with you; but if you neglect your watch, the Enemy will get in, and darken you again, and then you will be apt to ſpy the Mote in your Brothers Eye, and not ſee the Beam in your own Eye; then you will be ready to ſpeak againſt an Elder, or a Brother, and ſeek if ye can find Motes in there Eyes, but not conſider the Beam in your one Eyes.

But my Dear Friends, have a care of *Whiſpering or Backbiting*, any Friend, but if thou haſt ought againſt him or her, go to them, and ſpeak face to face, and be reconciled togather, that

that the true Unity may be keept together, and the bonds of love may hold, this is the desire of my Heart, that there may be no rents nor devision in the Church of God; and the Lord bless, and keep and preserve you in his fear, that his blessed Truth may prosper, that you may have the benefit of your Travel when you lay down your Heads, and that the Lord may say well done good and faithful Servants, enter you into the Joy of my Rest; this is the desire of my Heart for you all.

And whoever thou art that comes to be a true Traveler and to travel to *Sion* with thy face thitherward, then wilt thou come to know the Voice of the Lord, and the Voice of the Enemy, then wilt thou know the Lord a right, that so when thou comest to dye and leave this World, then shalt thou be received into Heaven with Joy, and witness the saying, *Come ye blessed of my Father Inherrit the Kingdom prepared*

ared for you: When the wicked, the proud, the highminded that walk not in Gods Way, but in the Devils way, though in great eſtemation among the People of the World, yet to them he will ſay go ye curſed into Hell where is Weeping and Gnaſhing of Teeth.

Now, Dear Friends and Children, ſeeing we muſt leave this World (for hear is no cartain dwelling place) and go hence, I deſire ye to get the true Wiſdom, that will lay up Treaſure in Heaven: This do I leave behind me, deſireing the Lord to direct and guide you all, and be with my Children, that they may alſo truely Fear God, and walk in his Way.

By their weak and Sick Father, and your Dear Friend,

Joſhua Cobham.

THE END.